

Welcome to the Legislative Update for June 27, 2014

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's older citizens and advocates of aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The **Legislative Update** is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

Between legislative sessions, it is our intent to offer the **Legislative Update** on a monthly basis.

From the Arizona Legislative Council

A.R.S. section 19-124(B) requires the Arizona Legislative Council to prepare impartial analyses of ballot measures, which are then included in the publicity pamphlet published by the Secretary of State. Ballot measure analyses are provided [here](#).

General effective dates for legislation passed during the 2nd Regular session are posted at: <http://www.azleg.gov/GeneralEffectiveDates.asp>.

From the Joint Legislative Budget Committee/JLBC

Fiscal Impact of Legislatively-Referred 2014 Ballot Measures is posted [here](#).

FY 2015 Appropriations Report – June 2014 that includes links to individual agencies is provided [here](#).

JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights June 2014 is linked [here](#) and reports "Year-to-date base revenues are 2.1% higher than FY 2013, and total General Fund collections through May are \$(55.4) million below forecast."

Tracking Arizona's Recovery June 2014 is posted [here](#).

Petition in Medicaid Lawsuit

The Governor's press release is provided [here](#).

In case you missed the last issue

Arizona's primary election is August 26th (and the last day to register to vote is July 28, 2014). Arizona's general election is November 4th (and the last day to register is October 6th). Voter and other election information can be found on the website for the Office of the Secretary of State. <http://www.azsos.gov/election/VoterInformation.htm>

A full listing of primary election candidates:

<http://www.azsos.gov/election/2014/primary/FullListing.htm>

Online voter registration: <https://servicearizona.com/webapp/evoter/selectLanguage>

Plan ahead now for the next session!

Learn more about the legislative process. See [Arizona Bill](#) or **Bill to Law** provided [here](#).

Learn about the budget process:
<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/budgetprocess.htm>

Review the Arizona Constitution: <http://www.azleg.gov/Constitution.asp>

Share your thoughts at any time! If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you can voice your opinions by contacting the:

- **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 in Phoenix, 520-628-6580 in Tucson and in state toll free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only)
- Or by **contacting your legislator from your area**. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** and looking for: **How do I find My Legislators** or by opening the links provided.
- [Members of the House](#)
- [Members of the Senate](#)

Not sure about your congressional or legislative district? **Maps** can be found on the Arizona State Legislature website linked [here](#).

Tracking List

In case you're interested, the following list contains highlighted bills tracked by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging (GACA) during the last session.

SHORT LIST:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=25362&listid=50230&print=true>

Note: You can access the FULL LIST of all bills tracked by the Council during the last session by opening one of the past issues of the *Legislative Update* posted on this [webpage](#).

The web report information found in any of our tracking list is a purchased service provided by **Arizona Capitol Times**. Please be advised that the presence of a bill on any tracking list **does not** represent support or opposition by the Advisory Council on Aging to the bill. It **does** mean that the topic is something that may be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

FEDERAL OVERVIEW:

S.2382

Fair Raises for Seniors Act

Introduced on 5/22/2014 by Senator Jeff Merkley (OR)

To establish the Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers for purposes of determining cost-of-living increases under the Social Security Act, and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to apply payroll taxes to remuneration and earnings from self-employment up to the contribution and benefit base and to remuneration in excess of \$250,000, and for other purposes.

Latest Action: 5/22/2014 read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

H.R.4577

Ensuring Seniors Access to Local Pharmacies Act of 2014

Introduced on 5/6/2014 by Representative H. Morgan Griffith (VA-9)

Ensuring Seniors Access to Local Pharmacies Act of 2014 - Amends part D (Voluntary Prescription Drug Benefit Program) of title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act with respect to a prescription drug plan that has, in its network of pharmacies, one or more pharmacies located in a health professional shortage area, in a medically underserved area, or among a medically underserved population, and that provides a reduction in coinsurance or copayments for covered part D drugs dispensed through them.

Declares that such a plan shall extend to any pharmacy located in that area or among that population the option to be an in-network pharmacy with respect to such plan under terms and conditions comparable to those the plan has agreed upon with other in-network pharmacies located in the area or among that population.

Latest Action: 05/09/2014 Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.4840

Seniors' Identity Protection Act of 2014

Introduced on 6/11/2014 by Representative Steve Israel (NY-3)

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to preclude use of the social security account number on Government-issued identification cards issued in connection with Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP benefits, and for other purposes.

Latest Action: 06/11/2014 Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce,

Updates from earlier reports

S.1028

Older Americans Act Amendments of 2013
Introduced 9/23/2013 by Senator Bernard Sanders (VT)

Related Bills: [H.R.4122](#), [S.1562](#), [S.1986](#)

Latest Major Action: 6/19/2013 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging. Hearings held.

H.R.3850 (companion to HR 4122)
Older Americans Act Reauthorization of 2014
Introduced on 1/10/2014 by Representative Christopher P. Gibson (NY-19)

Related Bills: [H.R.4122](#)

Latest Major Action: 6/13/2014 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.

H.R.803

Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act

Introduced on 2/25/2013 by Representative Virginia Foxx (NC-5)

Text of the bill is linked [here](#).

Latest Action: Passed Senate 6/25/2014; 6/26/2014; message on Senate sent to the House.

If you want to check on the status of any federal legislation, go to <http://beta.congress.gov/> and enter the bill number or title.

Check for **active federal legislation** at this [link](#).

Share your opinions with members of Congress!

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives or Senators by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**.

Links to the membership lists are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

You can contact the White House at this [link](#).

ALSO: A compilation of contact information is provided at:

<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

NEWS & RESOURCES

From the **Administration for Community Living/ACL** webpage that provides current, evidence-based information and resources related to brain health:

http://www.acl.gov/Get_Help/BrainHealth/Index.aspx

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/HHS press release related to brain health is provided [here](#).

2014 Webinar Series on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia's is linked [here](#).

From **Kaiser Health News**

Senators Offer Bill to Ease Readmission Penalties on Some Hospitals is linked [here](#).

Future Uncertain for VA Rural Health Pilot Program is linked [here](#).

From the **National Council on Aging/NCOA**

Seniors & Snap: 5 Myths Busted is linked [here](#).

From the **Consumer Financial Protection Bureau**

Protecting residents from financial exploitation: A manual for assisted living and nursing facilities is linked [here](#).

National Alzheimer's Project Act

Updated information can be found at: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>. (Be sure to scroll down the page.)

From **National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities/NASUAD**

Friday Updates June 20, 2014

Department of Labor Releases Guidance on Joint Employment Arrangements for Consumer-Directed

LTSS

On Thursday June 19, the Department of Labor Released an Administrator Interpretation and an associated fact sheet that discusses the implementation of the Fair Labor Standards Act requirements. The guidance specifically deals with joint employment and self-directed LTSS, which are instances where more than one entity may be responsible for ensuring that the FLSA requirements are met. In the guidance, DOL outlines scenarios demonstrating how joint employment requirements may apply to participant-directed models. Significantly, DOL states that: "The Department believes that in most, but not all, consumer-directed models, a third party will be a joint employer of a provider. As noted in the Final Rule, potential third party joint employers may include a public entity, private agency, or non-profit organization."

The guidance is available online [here](#).

AARP Releases LTSS Scorecard

AARP recently released the second version of their State LTSS scorecard. This scorecard ranks state LTSS systems on a number of measures and was first published in 2011. There are 26 indicators that are grouped into five dimensions of the LTSS system. The five dimensions are:

- Affordability and access;
- Choice of setting and provider;
- Quality of life and quality of care;
- Support for family caregivers; and
- Effective transitions.

[Click here](#) to view the full report, view by state or compare data across states.

From **Oral Health America - Wisdom Tooth Project**

[State of Decay: Are Older Americans Coming of Age Without Oral Healthcare?](#)

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

Arizona Employment First

Arizona Employment First Community Forums flyer is provided [here](#).

WHAT: 2014 Arizona Geriatric Society Annual Summer Interprofessional Geriatrics Conference Palliative Care: State of the Art & Art of the State

WHEN: Friday, August 8, 2014, High Country Conference Center, Flagstaff, Arizona

More information is provided [here](#).

WHAT: Arizona Health Care Association 2014 Annual Conference & Trade Show

WHEN: August 19 - 21, 2014, Talking Stick Resort, 9800 E Indian Bend Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85256

More information is available [here](#).

SAVE THE DATE:

WHAT: Aging - If It's Not your Issue...It Will Be Northern Arizona Council of Governments/NACOG Area Agency on Aging Region III

WHEN: Thursday, October 16, 2014, 8:00 am to 5 pm, High Country Conference Center, 201 W Butler, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

WHAT: The Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness' 21st Annual Conference

WHEN: October 21-22, 2014, Black Canyon Conference Center, Phoenix, AZ

More information [here](#)

Just in case you're interested

Past issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at:
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: gaca@az.gov. Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

Thank you! Enjoy your summer.

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

